

# Maggie A. Collier

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
macollie@cmu.edu | maggiannecol@gmail.com  
Webpage : <https://collierma.github.io>

PH.D. STUDENT IN ROBOTICS, ROBOTICS INSTITUTE, CMU

---

**EDUCATION**      **Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)**, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania      *2019 - present*  
*Ph.D.* in Robotics, Robotics Institute  
*Advisor:* Prof. Henny Admoni, [Human and Robots Partners \(HARP\) Lab](#)  
*Areas of Study:* Human Robot Interaction, Assistive Robotics, Assistive Teleoperation

**University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)**, Birmingham, Alabama      *2013 - 2019*  
*B.S.* in Electrical Engineering (EE), *Summa Cum Laude*  
*B.S.* in Biomedical Engineering (BME), *Summa Cum Laude*  
*Thesis:* Eye Gaze Behavior during Teleoperation of a Robot in a Multi-stage Task  
*GPA:* 3.98/4.0

---

**SUMMARY**      I am a researcher with multidisciplinary experience in robotics, assistive technology, and biomedical device development. My current research interests include *Human Robot Interaction (HRI)*, *Assistive Robotics*, *Disability Studies*, and *Human Factors in HRI*.

---

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**      **Users' Preferences for Assistance throughout Human-Robot Collaboration Tasks**  
*Human and Robot Partners Lab, CMU*      *Feb '21 - present*  
*Advisor:* Prof. Henny Admoni

*Aim:* Study users' preference for assistance during teleoperated object manipulation tasks

- Wrote code to enable people to directly adjust the way their input commands and the robot's commands are arbitrated in an assistive teleoperation paradigm
- Designing and building a user study to test how people's preferences for assistance change throughout an object manipulation task

**Eye Gaze Behavior during Teleoperation of a Robot in a Multi-stage Task**  
*Human and Robot Partners Lab, CMU*      *June '18 - Dec '20*  
*Advisor:* Prof. Henny Admoni

*Aim:* Study eye gaze behavior during complex, teleoperated object manipulation tasks

- Designed and conducted a user study to collect eye gaze during complex robot manipulation
- Studied eye gaze behavior while users teleoperate a robot to perform a multi-stage task
- Studied approaches for distinguishing subtasks during a teleoperated multi-stage task with gaze

**Human Pose Tracking with Capacitive Proximity Sensor in Robot Assisted Dressing**  
*Healthcare Robotics Lab, Georgia Institute of Technology*      *May '17 - Aug '17*  
*Advisor:* Prof. Charlie Kemp

*Aim:* Equip a robot to manage errors in human pose estimation and adapt to human motion in real time during robot assisted dressing

- Built a sensor that can estimate the distance between a robot's end effector and a person
- Aided in implementing a PD controller on a PR2 robot
- Helped design a human study to evaluate a novel approach to error management during robot assisted dressing

## Improving Coil Embolization of Brain Aneurysms

Department of Biomedical Engineering, UAB

Oct '14 - May '17

Advisors: Prof. Ho-Wook Jun; Patrick Hwang, Ph.D.

Aim: Increase occlusion rates of brain aneurysms treated with coil embolization in an effort to phase out a more invasive treatment

- Assisted in the project's creation by providing ideas for strategies to increase occlusion rates
- Independently designed and conducted the *in vitro* experiments
- Built a statistical analysis program in MATLAB to process data from the *in vitro* studies
- Prepared and sent samples to collaborators at the Mayo Clinic for the *in vivo* studies

---

### PUBLICATIONS

K.H. Allen, R.M. Aronson, T. Bhattacharjee, F. Broz, M.L. Chang, M. Collier, T. Kessler Faulkner, H.R. Lee, I. Neto, K. Winkle, E.S. Short (2024). "Assistive Applications, Accessibility, and Disability Ethics in HRI" in companion of the *ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction*

M. Collier, H. Admoni (2023). "Uncovering People's Preferences for Robot Autonomy in Assistive Teleoperation" at *Assistive Robotics for Citizens Workshop in IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems*

Z. Erickson, M. Collier, A. Kapusta, C. C. Kemp (2018). "Tracking Human Pose During Robot-Assisted Dressing using Single-Axis Capacitive Proximity Sensing" in *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*

M. Collier, R. Aronson, H. Admoni (2018). "Eye Gaze Behavior during Teleoperation of a Robot in a Multi-stage Task" in *Robotics Institute Summer Scholars (RISS) Working Papers Journal*

### CONFERENCE

M. Collier, H. Admoni (Oct '23). "Uncovering People's Preferences for Robot Autonomy in Assistive Teleoperation" presented at the *Assistive Robotics for Citizens Workshop at IROS 2023*

### PRESENTATIONS

T. J. Hwang, M. Collier, G. Alexander, B. Brott, R. Hergenrother, R. Kardivel, D. Kallmes, H.-W. Jun (Oct '17). "Nitric Oxide Releasing Bionanomatrix Coating for Brain Aneurysm Coils to Improve Healing" presented at the *2017 Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting*

M. Collier, M. Chan, D. Chasteen-Boyd, S. Holder, A. Eberhardt (Apr '17). "An Independent Alarm Clock Designed for Individuals with Deaf-Blindness" presented in the *2017 Design of Medical Devices Conference* at the University of Minnesota

M. Collier (Apr '17). "Novel Endothelium-Mimicking Nanomatrix Coating to Enhance Healing of Ruptured Intracranial Aneurysms Treated with Coil Embolization" presented at the *2017 National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)* at the University of Memphis

T. J. Hwang, M. Collier, G. Alexander, B. Brott, R. Hergenrother, R. Kardivel, D. Kallmes, H.-W. Jun (Oct '16). "A Self-assembled Bionanomatrix Coating for Intracranial Aneurysm Coils to Enhance Healing" presented at the *2016 Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting*

T. J. Hwang, G. Alexander, M. Somarathna, M. Collier, B. Brott, J. Pollock, T. Lee, H.-W. Jun (Oct '16). "Nitric Oxide Releasing Nanomatrix to Enhance Dialysis Fistula Maturation" presented at the *2016 Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting*

M. Collier, T. J. Hwang, B. Brott, R. Hergenrother, R. Kardivel, D. Kallmes, and H.-W. Jun (May '16). "Novel Endothelium-Mimicking Nanomatrix Coating to Enhance Healing of Ruptured Intracranial Aneurysms Treated with Coil Embolization" presented at the *9th Frontiers in Chemistry and Biology Interface Symposium* at Johns Hopkins University

M. Collier, T. J. Hwang, G. Alexander, B. Brott, R. Hergenrother, R. Kardivel, D. Kallmes, H.-W. Jun (Apr '16). "Improving Coil Embolization of Intracranial Aneurysms through the Application of a Nitric Oxide-Releasing Nanomatrix Coating" presented at the *2016 University of Alabama System Honors Research Conference* at the University of Alabama at Huntsville

G. Alexander, J. Vines, M. Collier, T. J. Hwang, J. Kim, B. Brott, H.-W. Jun (Oct '15). "Evaluation of Inflammation on a Self-Assembled Nanomatrix Stent Coating *In Vitro*" presented at the *2015 Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting*

---

HONORS & AWARDS	National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship	2019
	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship ( <i>declined</i> )	2019
	Goldwater Scholarship	2017
	Outstanding Student Engineer in Biomedical Engineering at UAB	2017

---

SKILLS	<b>Programming:</b> Python ( <i>proficient</i> ), MATLAB ( <i>experienced</i> ), C++/C ( <i>familiar</i> ) <b>Software:</b> ROS, MoveIt, Git, SolidWorks, LabVIEW
--------	--

---

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<b>Teaching Assistantships</b>	
	• Math Fundamentals for Robotics (CMU, 16-811) – Prof. Mike Erdmann	<i>Fall 2023</i>
	• Human Robot Interaction (CMU, 16-467) – Prof. Henny Admoni	<i>Spring 2021</i>
	• Signals and Systems (UAB, EE 318) – Dr. Arie Nakhmani	<i>Fall 2018</i>
	• Bioimaging (UAB, BME 340) – Dr. Massimo Fazio	<i>Spring 2017</i>
	• Bioinstrumentation (UAB, BME 313) – Dr. Joel Berry	<i>Fall 2016</i>

	<b>Supplemental Instruction</b>	<i>Jan '17 - Apr '19</i>
--	---------------------------------	--------------------------

*Employer: Vulcan Materials Academic Success Center, UAB*

Served as Supplemental Instruction leader to Introductory Physics course for four semesters

- Taught large groups of pre-medicine students about physics
- Created and worked practice problems for students at two one-hour, weekly sessions
- Created and hosted mock tests for students prior to class tests
- Collaborated with professors to develop useful content for sessions

	<b>Tutoring</b>	<i>Jan '15 - Dec '16</i>
--	-----------------	--------------------------

*Employer: Vulcan Materials Academic Success Center, UAB*

- Tutored approximately 10 hours a week in challenging courses such as Calculus, Physics, Biology, and Organic Chemistry
  - Certified with the Association of Tutoring Professionals
- 

SERVICE	<b>Reviewer and Publicity Chair:</b> <i>A3DE Workshop at Human Robot Interaction</i>	<i>Spring 2024</i>
	<b>Reviewer:</b> <i>ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human Robot Interaction</i>	<i>Fall 2023</i>
	<b>Reviewer:</b> <i>Int. Conference on Robotics and Automation, Robotics and Automation Letters</i>	<i>Fall 2021</i>
	<b>Reviewer:</b> <i>Int. Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems</i>	<i>Spring 2020</i>
	<b>Reviewer:</b> Robotics Institute Summer Scholars Admissions Committee	<i>Spring 2020, Spring 2021</i>
	<b>Mentor:</b> Robotics Institute Summer Scholars Program	<i>Summer 2020</i>

---

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE	<b>Autonomous Robot for Hardware Competition</b>	
	<i>EE Senior Capstone Project, Department of Electrical Engineering, UAB</i>	<i>Aug '18 - Apr '19</i>
	Aim: Build an autonomous robot for IEEE Southeast Conference student competition	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implemented the localization component of the project with a Lidar and a variant of ICP</li> <li>• Setup the Raspberry Pi with light-weight versions of Linux and ROS</li> <li>• Gained more experience with real-time processing and embedded systems</li> </ul>	

### **Alarm Clock for People with Deaf-Blindness**

*BME Senior Capstone Project, Department of Biomedical Engineering, UAB* Sept '16 - Apr '17

Aim: Develop an alarm clock for individuals with deaf-blindness that can be set without assistance from a caretaker

- Implemented a novel time and alarm setting input mechanism to meet users' needs
- Designed the entire electrical circuit and programmed the Arduino
- Helped secure a provisional patent for novel input mechanism

### **Journal Editorship**

*Sept '14 - May '17*

*Inquiro, UAB's official peer-reviewed undergraduate research journal*

- Oversaw the publication of Volume IX and X
- Served on editorial board for Volume VIII
- Argued for and secured funding for a website rebuild from the Office of the Provost to make *Inquiro* a visually appealing, open-access online publication